In Parenthesis

Thirst

GENTILE.—"Is it true that Jews read dry books?"

Jew.—"Yes, to satisy their thirst for knowledge."

* * *

First Time

TEACHER—"Now, Johnny, can you give me Napoleon's nationality?"

Johnny—"Course, I can."

Teacher—"Yes, that's correct."

* * *

Boring

HOUSEHOLDER (to prospective maid) —"Why did you leave your last place?"

'Maid—"It was so dull. They were trying to live on their income."

* * *

Nearly Right

THE teacher was testing the intelligence of a newscomer to her class.

"Now, Willie, can you tell me what a parasite is?" she asked

"Please, miss, a citizen of Paris," replied the youngster.

* * *

Tight

"MA boots were guaranteed fer four months," said Mac, to the bootmaker, "an' I've only had 'em six weeks, an' they need easin'."

"But they seem to fit."

"Ay, they're fine on me, but tight fer ma brither on night shift."

* * *

His Choice

DOCTOR—"Your husband is not so well to-day. Is he sticking to the simple diet I prescribed?"

Wife—"He is not, sor. He says he'll not be after starvin' himself to death just for the sake of living a few years longer."

* * *

Verboten

FIRST Student—"The Dean says he is going to stop smoking in the college."

Second Student—"Well, let him do it; but I hope he doesn't ask us to stop it, too."

* * *

No Wonder

LOST, small brown dog, long ears and tail, tipped with black. Answers to name Umsolphegus. Reward. 14 St. Mary's Place.—Adv. in Red Bank (N. J.) "Register."

Answers grudgingly, maybe.

* * *

Not Hungry

JOHNNY had been the guest of honour at a party the day before, and his friend was regarding him enviously.

"How was it? Have a good time?" he was asked.

"Did I?" was the emphatic answer. "I'm not hungry yet!"

* * *

Right

ON being asked to write down a definition of "capital punishment," a Glasgow schoolboy submitted the following amusing effort:—

"Being locked in an ice cream or chocolate factory for a week-end would, in my opinion, be capital punishment."

* * *

No Ball

IN a village cricket match a batsman was caught at the wicket from an obvious snick. "How's that?" roared the slips and bowler in chorus. "Not out," said the umpire, "it was a no-ball."

The bowler scratched his head, and none too politely asked. "Well why on earth didn't you say so before?"

"I couldn't," came the reply, "I have a new set of false teeth in."

* * *

Elizabethan

A BRITISH dramatist was asked to check and correct some dialogue in a Hollywood film dealing with Queen Elizabeth and Mary Queen of Scots. He pointed out that to make Queen Elizabeth say: "Well, Mary, I guess I've got one up on you," was hardly in the language of the period.

The producer altered it and proudly displayed the amended version, with the comment: "It's 100 per cent. Elizabethan now."

It read: "Well, Mary, I guess I've got one up on you, forsooth."

* * *

Puzzled

IT was the custom in the village for the well-to-do inhabitants to make good any loss the village might sustain through the death of any livestock. A retired millionaire, recently settled in the village, was ignorant of this practice, and was considerably puzzled by the visit of a labourer's wife, who explained that she had lost a pig.

"Well, I haven't got it," said the bewildered millionaire.

"What I mean, sir, of course, is that the pig died," explained the woman.

"Well, what do you want me to do?" asked the new arrival. "Send a wreath?"

* * *

Amazing

ANGUS had just arrived in NewYork from Glasgow and was taken on a sight-seeing trip to the Zoo. Pointing to a herd in one of the enclosures, he asked:—"And what might that animal be?"

To which his host replied, "That's a North American moose."

The Scotsman opened his eyes wide in astonishment.

"A North American moose!" he exclaimed.

"Yes," said his host. "That's a North American moose."

The visitor grasped his host by the arm and asked, "Kin ye show me a North American rat?"

Sixty Years Ago

FROM THE "NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS," OF JULY 2, 1877.

From Canton:—The second inundation in the neighbourhood of the city has, I am glad to say, subsided to the extent of another foot, but a great deal of inconvenience and distress is still being experienced. Some towns are closed altogether owing to this cause, and the desire to keep out the marauding bands of robbers who are roaming about seeking what they may devour or rather appropriate. The other day another boat capsized in the river in this city, and four of the passengers found a watery grave. The tide is so strong that their bodies have not yet been recovered. There is much grumbling, not only deep but loud, among the traders here because the likin station officers do not all charge the liking tax according to tariff issued by the Superintendent of Customs. But they will probably grumble and protest in vain, for tariffs are never long adhered to in this benighted land, where the great business of life with officials is to squeeze those engaged in trade of the uttermost cash.

DAIREN'S SHIPPING SEASON

Beans, Though High-Priced, Form Export Bulk

PHENOMENAL RISE IN FREIGHT RATES

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

Dairen, June 26.

The humble soya bean of some months ago is rapidly becoming a far more precious article, to judge by its present price and the freight charged to carry it to Europe and elsewhere. Beans are now seeing their peak price since the memorable depression year of 1929 while the Osaka Shoshen Kaisha, the shipping company which carries the greatest quantities of beans between Manchoukuo and Japan is lifting its freight rates from July 15 by 20 per cent.

Nor is that all as the shipping rate on staples from this port to Europe has more than doubled from what was considered as normal some time ago. Two years ago the freight rates on beans to European ports fluctuated between 18 and 19s. per ton while at present it costs 47s. to move a ton from Dairen to Europe. Only two years ago many vessels left this port in ballast while many others were dawdling around the waterfront begging for cargoes of staples from here at 14 or 15s. a ton to Europe.

Bean quotations on the Dairen produce market are at the moment hovering round Y. 8 per picul which is about 6 sen per pound or Y. 132 per long ton. Including the current freight rate the cost per ton, excluding port charges is about Y. 160 per ton in European ports. The weight employed for beans in Manchoukuo is usually the metric ton.

Great Shipping Boom

This is indeed a great boom time for all shipping lines carrying beans and other staple products from Dairen to Europe. Of these various shipping firms the Hamburg-America takes first place. During 1936 this company carried 128,000 tons of beans from Dairen to Hamburg and Rotterdam. The Rickmers line transported 92,000 tons for the same period, the North German Lloyd 64,000 tons and the Blue Funnel 36,000 tons. For the first four months of this year Hamburg America ships carried 64,000 tons of beans to Europe from here.

The phenomenal rise in freight rates, according to the manager of one of the big shipping firms here, is partly due to the world-wide shortage in bottoms and congestion in freight traffic between the Far East and North European ports. There is no slackening, however, in the brisk demand for Manchoukuo staples as they are needed badly in Europe for their valuable oils and protein-containing residue when the oil has been extracted.

In a minor way the shipping of groundnuts from Shantung at Tsingtao is witnessing the same rise in price and freight rates.

Despite the active business in beans figures show that Dairen is not exporting as much as in former years and this must be placed to a large extent on the improved facilities of the Korean port of Rashin. At present nearly 1,500 tons of beans can be loaded daily at this harbour and on company in Dairen is exporting round 30 per cent. of its total shipments from Rashin.

Risk in Bean Exports

With bean quotations and freight rates as they are a cargo of beans must bring over £9 10s. if the shipper is to make any profit, according to the manager of one of the biggest foreign exporters. This businessman declares that there is a large risk in the export of beans to Europe nowadays. At the same time £9 10s. per ton is a large price to obtain, the quotation on June 5 being in the neighbourhood of £9 only. The highest quotation for beans on the European market this year was £10 5s. on April 7, though this price lasted only for one day, tumbling on the next by several shillings.

Exporters sending beans to Europe at the moment must hope that quotations will be at least £9 10s. when the cargo reaches Europe 40 days or so after leaving Dairen. If the price is round £10 he makes a handsome profit though if it is around £9 he loses heavily.

At that this executive intimated that the price was not expected to drop to a point where Dairen shippers would sustain losses as there was nothing to indicate that demand would decline, particularly with the trade agreement between Germany and Manchoukuo in operation.

Even if prices for autumn beans drop this will still be a memorable year for this product upon which the fate of the country and its 30,000,000 people partly depends.

UNIVERSITY MEN FOR H. M. NAVY

To Have Engineer Officers' Commissions

Owing to the expansion of the British Navy more engineer officers are required, and the Admiralty, for the first time on record, is looking to the universities to supply them. An official announcement stated:

"A number of commissions as Engineer Officers in the Royal Navy will be in future offered to university graduates each half year.

Twenty such commissions will be offered next September. Detailed regulations and entry forms may be obtained from the Secretary, Admiralty, London, S.W.1, or the authorities of the following universities:

Birmingham	London	Edinburgh
Bristol	Manchester	Glasgow
Cambridge	Oxford	St. Andrews
Durham	Sheffield	Wales
Leeds	Aberdeen	Belfast
Liverpool		

An applicant must be between the ages of 21 and 25 years, be unmarried and be a British subject of pure European descent and the son of parents who are British subjects. He must also:

Have undergone a course of not less than three academic years as an internal student. (In certain circumstances the first year at a recognized Dominion university will be allowed.)

Produce satisfactory evidence that he has been regularly trained in mechanical engineering and has sufficient practical experience, and

Possess an engineering degree (mechanical or electrical) which is accepted by the Institute of Mechanical Engineers as exempting from Parts (A) and (B) of the examination for Associate Membership.

By SAPAJOU

Mr. T. E. Robson,

Superintendent Engineer of the Prince Line, Hongkong.

JAPAN PASSES CROSS-ROADS

Political Parties and Press Unified in Support of Prince Konoye's Cabinet: Huge Defence Programme

BY FRANK H. HEDGES

It is genuine realization that Japan at last confronts that "crisis" of which it has been talking these half-dozen years past, plus faith in the disinterested service of Premier Prince Fumimaro Konoye, that has brought a harmony to the Japanese political world such as seemed unbelievable a month and more ago. The ordinarily conflicting elements which make up the new Government are not co-operating; they are doing more than that. They are actually working in unison. The sole exception to this prevalent national unity observable at the moment is the Shakhai Taishuto, or Social Mass party, the politically organized labour group in Japan, which still adheres to its own programme for "the salvation of the Empire."

It was evident shortly after the recent Hayashi Government was formed that it could not endure for long. Acknowledged to be a stop-gap Government, it failed to stop the gap. When Gen. Senjuro Hayashi, himself a moderate, took over the Premiership from the retiring Mr. Koki Hirota he at once antagonized the political parties beyond any possibility of reconciliation. He was willing to admit two party men to his Cabinet, in fact, offered posts to one Minseito man and one from the Seiyukai, but only on condition that they quit their parties.

Largest Budget in Japan Annals

Both men refused, and General Hayashi faced a reconvened Diet so bitterly hostile to him that there was little chance of anything being accomplished other than the passing of the Budget with some minor alterations. The parties, quite as much as the Premier, recognized the necessity of enacting the largest Budget the Empire has ever known, but once that was done the quarrelling became so bitter that the Premier requested and received an order for dissolution and the calling of a General Election.

The outcome of that election is well-known. Although without a party and with no candidates in the field (the Premier early abandoned his attempts to form a new Right wing Government-supporting political party), the Hayashi Cabinet was given a humiliating defeat at the polls. The whole nation knew it, and so did the Premier, yet he tenaciously clung to office and announced that he would not resign. Resignation was, however, inevitable. Not only was the mass of the people opposed to the Hayashi régime, but some of those "unseen forces" which are so powerful in Japan likewise began to undermine his position. Apparently realizing this, the Premier cast about to find some successor who could bring harmony to Japan where he had failed, and of all men able to do this Prince Konoye was undoubtedly ablest.

Although young as statesmen go in Japan, he was President of the House of Peers, had an unblemished record, came from a family which commanded the respect of the whole people as he did himself in a personal way, and had no "entangling alliances." That is, he could go into the office which he had previously refused at least twice without being bound to any group or any particular school of political thought.

Konoye Government Formed

Prince Konoye must have agreed unofficially to accept the post before General Hayashi dramatically announced on June 1 that he and his Cabinet had tendered their resignations to the Throne. Within a few days the new Government under Prince Konoye was formed, a Government to which the Army and Navy freely supplied Ministers, a Government made up principally of bureaucrats but including also one man from the Minseito, one from the Seiyukai, although not as representatives of their parties. The result has been a cessation of that bitter strife which had been wracking Japan's political world for more than a year past.

It is only decent to give credit where credit is due, and in this instance it certainly is due to Army, to Navy, to the major political parties and to the public press. All of them have sunk their differences and are working in unison under Prince Konoye to create a New Japan, the second within less than a century. Predictions as to how long this unity may continue or how successful may be the efforts of the Konoye Ministry to build up and strengthen the Empire on a somewhat changed order of affairs are worthless at the moment. These are questions which time alone can answer, but the tangible fact is that the attempt is being made.

Old System to be Altered

There are certain to be major changes made—in governmental structure, in finance and commerce, in many another way—in the immediate future in this country. It is generally recognized that the old system is not able to stand the strain that is being put upon it now, and that it must be altered and strengthened. It is more than likely that the Ministers of State in their private thoughts liken themselves to the giants of the early Meiji Era who wrought over a feudal, mediæval nation into a modern Power in little more than a generation. Perhaps they are right; none knows.

The crisis which Japan faces is in part international, in part political and in part economic. This Empire, rightly or wrongly, considers itself surrounded by foes rather than friends, and hence feels the dire necessity of preparing itself for defence, just as the Japan of three-quarters of a century ago felt the same need as regarded certain of the European nations if it was to maintain its independence, a thing which few of the nations of Asia have been able to do.

Emphasis on National Defence

This accounts for the emphasis being placed on national defence, and for the fact that for some years to come the entire life of the Empire is destined to revolve round this single pivot. Any dreams of conquest that Japan may or may not have entertained have been put to one side. It is possible that they may be revived at some future date, but for the time being it is perfectly safe to assume that the guiding principle of Japanese policy is so to strengthen the Empire in every way that it need have no fear of any foreign enemy.

Fortunately, the realization has dawned in all quarters, unless among the radical younger element in the Army and the bureaucracy, that national defence mean more than a huge Army and Navy adequately armed and equipped. The Tokyo War Office is now conscious of the fact that there are such things as economics, and that economists are best able to deal with them. It is willing to trust this task to experts, but at the same time it feels impelled to tell those experts what it desires and to ask them to bring this about.

It is also realized that there must be unity of public opinion in support of any national programme if that programme is to succeed, and so a very earnest effort is being made to win such unity. Prince Konoye's Premiership is outstanding proof of this, but there are other proofs as well, such as the loyalty being accorded him by the press of the nation.

An Impregnable Japan

The machinery for this greater unification and centralization has already been thrown into gear. The recently created Planning Board is mapping out an economic programme to cover the next five years which, it believes, will go far toward making Japan impregnable from the dual standpoints of necessary material supplies and of finance. The House of Peers is to be reformed, and many another reform will be advanced in the immediate future. Again, time must elapse before it is known how successful they may or may not be.

The Budget for the next fiscal year will measurably exceed that for the present one, and the proportionate share of the Defence Services will be increased. This will entail sacrifices on the part of the people, and in their present mood they are quite prepared to make such sacrifices. It can be taken as assured that private finance and business will come more and more under Government direction, control, domination—one may choose whichever word best suits one. In the fields of education and spiritual training (on which Japan places such emphasis) this same process will go on. In almost any phase of national life it will be seen in increasing measure as the months roll by, whether the Konoye Ministry remains in power or is succeeded by another one not unlike it.

Three-Plank Programme

The Cabinet has announced the three planks of its financial and economic programme to be:

1.—Expansion of productivity.
2.—Balancing of international payments.
3.—Regulation of the supply and demand of raw materials.

The second and third of these planks are, in fact, supplementary and complementary to the first, and that in turn is designed primarily for the strengthening of national defence, in the broadest sense of that term. Industrial expansion, particularly of the munitions industries, is essential to military preparedness. This means that most of the raw materials needed by the munitions industries must be imported, which means, of course, an outflow of gold or payments in some form, so that it is necessary to regulate and balance these international payments lest Japan go bankrupt.

One way of doing this is undoubtedly to regulate imports and exports, bringing into the country only those raw materials absolutely essential to the munitions industries, to those industries which can in turn sell in foreign markets and so start cash flowing in the direction of Tokyo and Osaka, or those commodites which are needed for the daily life of the people.

The whole of Japan's economy for some years to come is to hinge on preparedness for defence, and this naturally hinges on the munitions industries. Any foreign firms wishing to do business with this Empire had best take this fact into reckoning if they are not to be shut out of the market.

Japan-Manchoukuo Unity

If it were not that Japan has frequently in the past accomplished what seemed impossible it would be easy to predict that this present plan would fail; given the known facts of the past no such judgment is rational at present. Just how it is to be done cannot be clearly forseen, but one of the major principles in the new programme is to consider Japan and Manchoukuo as an absolute economic unit. They have been a military unit for about five years, and to some extent a political unit; they are now, if the Japanese can accomplish it, to become an economic unit.

Every plan being made in Tokyo to-day considers not only the resources of Japan and its colonies but of Manchoukuo as well. How can that be reconciled with the principle of the Open Door? The question will have to be left to the gentlemen of Kasumigaseki to answer, as undoubtedly the War Office is leaving it.

In the realm of foreign policy Japan may be expected to pursue a far more conciliatory and friendly course than has always been the case. Japan wants above all things to be left alone while she works out and brings to perfection her own five-year plan. Unless there be some stupid blunder on the part of a handful of too ardent patriots, no nation need fear Japan as an aggressor until or unless the situation is altered.

Without Dreams of Conquest

Mr. Koki Hirota, none too popular in China because of his Three Principles, is back in as Foreign Minister after having served in the Premiership and suffered a short term of retirement. Your correspondent has known Mr. Hirota personally for something more than fifteen years, and is willing to declare flatly that he is not a militarist, that he entertains no ambitious dreams of conquest. As long as he is left in control of foreign policy, Japan's policy abroad will be one of peace and friendship—with China, with the Soviet, with Great Britain and with all other Powers.

The chances are that he is to be left in control of foreign affairs. The Army and Navy are so busily concentrated on their own strengthening that they have scant time for any other concern. They are, as long as their guiding principle of preparedness is followed, quite willing to let economic experts handle economic questions; it is reasonable to assume that they take the same attitude toward foreign affairs.

No Necessity for Rightists

Within Japan the situation is much less clear. Premier Prince Konoye has announced that no "new" party is to be formed unless the Shakhai Taishuto should become too obstreperous or too powerful. By "new" party is meant a party of the extreme Right. It is felt that there is no necessity for such a party, since virtually the whole nation is united behind the present Government. How long this unity may continue is questionable, of course, and if political strife should once more break out an extreme Right party is inevitable. It is inevitable because there is a school of thought, albeit decidedly in the minority, which would demand representation in the political field and which is sincerely Rightist in conviction.

In that event, the Shakhai Taishuto would probably lose much of its Labourite colouration, and become a Leftist party including many non-Labour elements. Between them would stand the bulk of the membership of the two existing major parties—the Minseito and the Seiyukai—probably united into a single group.

This, however, is speculation contingent upon a disruption of the harmony now prevailing. Such a disruption must come sooner or later because the existing unity is abnormal, but there is no indication of its approach. The extraordinary session of the Diet has been summoned in accordance with the Constitution to meet on July 23, and it is more than probable that that short session will enact measures of far-reaching and fundamental import. As the outlook is now, the Government can count on overwhelming support in putting its reforms into law, and these reforms will alter the political, the economic and perhaps other phases of the national life in a drastic manner.

Second New Japan

Their objective will be the creation of a second New Japan within less than a century, of a Japan strong enough to stand alone and to meet the problems of the present and the future as adequately as the Japan of the Meiji Era met even more serious problems.

Just how this is to be done, just how sucessful it may be, just how long the present halycon condition of harmony is to continue are unforseeable. The one fact that stands out so clearly that none can intelligently question it is that the Japanese Ship of State has steered clear of the rocks that loomed so ominously ahead a month and more ago, and that its pilots are endeavoring to chart a new course, with all hands pulling at the oars in perfect time.

Experienced Mentor

In Mr. Frank H. Hedges, the readers of this journal have an experienced and esteemed mentor on current Japanese affairs. Mr. Hedges, after service in the World War, came to the Far East in 1920, a graduate of the University of Missouri's School of Journalism, to join the staff of the "Japan Advertiser" in Tokyo. He has represented many journals during his residence in Tokyo and occasional visits to China. He is now staff correspondent for the North American Newspaper Alliance, the London "Daily Telegraph" and the "Washington Post." He is the author of "In Far Japan" and several booklets on the Far East, besides being one of the contributors to the recently published volume "We cover the World."

Rangoon Letter

BURMA AND CHINA COMMERCE

Decrease in Rice Trade, Indo-China Having Lower Freight Rates

BY F. B. LEACH (*Former Chief Secretary to Burma Government, now Political Secretary to Burma Chamber of Commerce*)

Rangoon, June 14.

There has been a welcome lull in politics for the last two months; the Legislature is in recess, the Chief Minister went to England for the Coronation and the Imperial Conference and has not yet returned, and the other Ministers are familiarizing themselves with the work of their new departments, and it is time to turn from politics to trade.

Trade between Burma and China falls naturally into two classes, sea trade and overland trade, and heavy merchandise has perforce to be sent by sea. Burma is primarily an agricultural country and rice is by far her most important product. She is in fact the largest rice-exporting country in the world and her exports of cleaned rice have risen in the last two generations from a few hundred thousand tons to about 3,500,000 tons, which is more than the combined exports of Siam and French Indo-China, her two rivals in the trade.

One of the most prominent features of this trade is the change that has taken place in the last 20 years in the proportions of the rice-crop which go to India and to the rest of the world. Before the war, India took about one-third and the rest of the world about two-thirds; of recent years the proportions have been roughly reversed. The reasons for this are various.

Free Trade for Three Years

For one thing, as long as Burma was part of India there was of course no Customs barrier, and free trade between the two countries has been continued for the first three years after separation by the Indo-Burma Trade Agreement, so that Burma is assured of an open market for her rice in India. Also the population of India grows faster than her production of foodstuffs, and the demand steadily increases, and Burma has an advantage in freight to India over Siam and Indo-China.

Similar advantages apply to a great extent to Ceylon and Malaya which remain steady markets, but other markets are far less satisfactory. The war upset the Europe market and it has never recovered; rice is more of a luxury than a staple food in European countries at any time, and the increased production of Spain and Italy, and the Customs barriers which economic nationalism has erected in nearly every European country have seriously affected the trade.

Japan, which used to take considerable quantities, has become almost self-supporting, and the Netherland East Indies have converted so much of their sugar-growing land to paddy-land that their demand has gone down to less than half of what it used to be. For this the Indian Government is largely responsible by its policy of encouraging sugar cultivation in India, with the result that the import of Java sugar into India has almost ceased to exist.

China Formerly Big Market

China used to be an important market for Burma rice. In the five years before the war she took an average of 300,000 tons. For the seven years 1922-28 the average was only 145,000 tons. For the next four years it rose to 350,000 tons, owing to bad harvests in China, but in 1933-34 the figure was only 220,000 and in 1934-35 170,000 tons and in 1935-36 only 70,000 tons was sent to China ports.

These enormous variations are due to several causes; fluctuation in rates of exchange has probably had much effect in recent years, but the most important cause is probably the condition of the local crops in China. Agricultural statistics of China are so unreliable and disasters of the first magnitude may come with so little warning that it is quite impossible to know from year to year how much imported rice China is likely to need, and Burma cannot look upon her as a stable market.

Also Indo-China and Siam, particularly the former, have great advantage in freights over Burma, and it is natural that they should be China's first sources of supply. At the same time, a market which is capable of taking up to 500,000 tons in years of famine, and which seldom takes less than 150,000 tons cannot be neglected, and it is to be hoped that China will not forget that Burma holds the biggest exportable surplus in the world of her main staple food, and that no unnecessary restrictions will be placed on the trade.

Other Principal Exports

Burma's other two main exports, teak and mineral oil, do not go to China at all; India takes the whole of her oil in the shape of kerosene and petrol, and only one by-product, candles, is exported elsewhere. The great bulk of the teak also goes to India, and the remainder mostly to England for ship-building. What little teak is used in China appears to be Siamese teak which is not as good quality as Burmese teak. China also takes none of Burma's large exports of lead and zinc.

The statistics show separately the trade with Hongkong and with China, the former being reckoned as Empire Trade, though there is little doubt that most of it merely passes through Hongkong from or to the interior of China. In the last five years exports to Hongkong have fallen from Rs. 51 lakhs to Rs. 6 lakhs, and exports to China from Rs. 2,92 lakhs to Rs. 64 lakhs. (A lakh is or roughly 120,000 dollars at present rates of exchange). Of these exports about three-quarters are rice, the only other export of importance being raw cotton. The average amount of raw cotton taken by China is about 10,000 bales, but in 1933-34 it rose to 62,000 bales, valued at Rs. 5 lakhs.

Sea-Borne Imports

Imports into Burma by sea from China are far less than the exports. From Hongkong for the last five years they have averaged about Rs. 20 lakhs a year, and from China they have decreased steadily from Rs. 13 lakhs to Rs. 6½ lakhs. By far the largest single item is farinaceous foods from Hongkong, which average Rs. 5½ lakhs or more than a quarter of the total imports. Dried and bottled fruits constitute nearly another Rs. 2 lakhs, and other provisions, mainly pickles and biscuits, are over Rs. 1 lakh. Beans, fireworks, perfumery, earthenware and porcelain are other items of considerable importance. From the rest of China silk piece-goods are the main item and constitute about 20 per cent. of the trade, farinaceous foods, pickles and sauces, tinned fish, and other provisions being also of importance, while a substantial trade in beer has arisen in the last three years. The Burmans have a taste for tinned foods of all kinds, and it looks as if this trade which is already considerable might be expanded.

Altogether the maritime trade is not large, and China has a formidable rival in Japan, which supplies Burma with very large quantities of textiles and manufactured goods of every description. Burma, however, is a good market as the standard of living is comparatively high, and trade between the two countries might be considerably larger than it is.

GENUINE RUSSIAN VODKA
"NEGA" & "STANDARD"
A. N. LAZARID
ESTABLISHED 1905 VLADIVOSTOK
THIRTY YEARS POPULARITY

ONLY Foreign Registered Optometric Eye Specialists in China

MYOPIA

We specialise in eliminating shortsight, having in two decades of practice originated an effective technique.

OPTOMETRISTS

250 NANKING ROAD

Largest, Most Modern, Best-equipped

SCRIBBLING PAD AS EVIDENCE

Idly scribbling on a pad while talking on the telephone Mr. A. E. Fraser, an Eccles, Lancashire, licensee, unconsciously wrote the serial number of a bank-note. When he found later that the note, with three others and 5s. in change, had been stolen, he informed the police. A London salesman when arrested, had the bank-note in his possession. Mr. Fraser produced the pad at Eccles Police Court and the salesman, pleading guilty to the theft, was fined £10.

Asking For Trouble!

You are asking for trouble if you ignore rules and regulations and fail to obey danger signals. For instance, constipation, bilious attacks, liverishness, sick headaches are danger signals which can only be disregarded at the real risk of your health. To relieve congestion in the digestive tract, to stimulate the liver, to dispel sick-headaches and to banish bilicusness nothing is better than Pinkettes.

Gentle yet thorough in action, these dainty laxative pilules help to purify the breath, brighten the eyes, and keep the skin free from blemishes. Chemists everywhere sell Pinkettes.

Special Announcement

We beg to advise those of our clients who have ordered NEOPHAN lenses that complete stocks are now on hand, and patients' prescriptions can be made up in Neophan glass.

LAZARUS — OPTICIANS

126 Nanking Road

Fellows of the Worshipful Company of Spectacle Makers (England)

Fellows of the Institute of Ophthalmic Opticians (England)

Freemen of the City of London

GAINING NEW FRIENDS

"I hope I didn't annoy you by taking all those pictures while you were singing", said G. Lionel Willens of Detroit. "Annoy me? I should say not! I have a Leica myself!" replied Harry Richman, stage, screen and night club singer. They made friends immediately, and the Leica powerful f:2 lens did the trick.

SCHMIDT & CO., LTD.

Sassoon Building, Telephone 12114, Nanking Road

YOU MAY BE CLEAN BUT NOT FRESH!

Body odors have the unpleasant habit of lingering on. Give yourself the soothing luxury of Florida Water in your bath, for Florida Water gives day-long assurance of FRESHNESS.

Make your bath a real beauty treatment for SKIN loveliness and body freshness.

Ask for LANMAN & KEMP'S FLORIDA WATER

(1)

LANMAN & KEMP'S Florida Water contains only the purest and finest oils and ingredients. No synthetic substitutes are ever used.